



May 3, 2021

**RE: Support for HB 2517A**

Dear Chair Patterson, Vice Chair Knopp, and members of the Senate Health Care Committee:

On behalf of the Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of Oregon (OPSO) and the over 2,500 osteopathic physicians, residents, and medical students in Oregon we represent, I would like to thank you for this opportunity to express our support for HB 2517A. The increase in administrative burdens on physicians and the negative impact it has on high quality patient care and the physician-patient relationship is one of the top concerns we hear from our members. Specifically, our members often encounter prior authorization requirements and step-therapy protocols that impede or delay the delivery of care.

HB 2517A would take an important step in reducing administrative burdens placed on physicians. It is important to note that HB 2517A does not prohibit insurers from implementing utilization management programs; rather, it provides greater transparency around prior authorization programs and implements common sense reforms for greater efficiency.

Our members strongly support streamlining utilization management practices. With the passage of HB 2517A we can reduce the amount of time physicians spend on administrative activities that take away from direct patient care and take steps toward improving the quality of care and patient experience.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David Walls  
Executive Director